Mandate and Operational area of SSB

1802. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) are deployed to districts of Uttar Pradesh bordering Nepal;

(b) if so, the task the SSB is mandated including the limits, if any, for its operational area;

(c) whether it is a fact that in October, 2007 Government of Uttar Pradesh granted power to SSB to conduct search, seizure and arrest upto 15 Kms. from the border but subsequently limited it to 5 Kms.;

(d) if so, whether the State administration has assigned any reason for imposition of such limitation; and

(e) the details of other bordering States where SSB operational area have been restricted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has been deployed in the districts of Uttar Pradesh bordering Nepal, *viz.* Pilibhit, Lakhimpur Kheri, Bahraich, Saravasti, Balrampur, Sidharthnagar and Maharajganj.

(b) SSB, being Border Guarding Force, has been assigned the following tasks within 5 Kms:—

(1) To Promote a sense of security among the people living in the border areas;

(2) To prevent trans-border crimes, crimes, unauthorized entry into or exit from the territory of India;

(3) To prevent smuggling and any other illegal activities.

(c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh, *vide* notification No. 133/2/2/2001-CX-3 dated October 10, 2007 had granted legal powers to SSB to Conduct Search, Seizure and arrest under CrPC up to 15 Kms from borders. But subsequently, it has withdrawn those legal power from SSB *vide* notification No. 133/2/2/2001-CX-3 dated 14-08-2008.

(d) No reason has been assigned by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(e) Nil.

Reduction in foreign infiltrators

†1803. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a reduction in the number of cases of infiltration by foreign infiltrators into different States of country from across various borders during the last two years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the potential threats from such infiltrators from the neighbouring States;

(c) the measures taken by Government to check such infiltration; and

(d) the details of extent to which these measures have been effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) and (b) Available information about apprehension of infiltrators indicates reduction in cross border infiltration on the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders. There is no significant incidence of infiltration on the other borders. While Illegal Immigration into the country has various socio-economic implications, the dangers from foreign infiltration relates mainly to their likely indulgence in subversive/terrorist activities.

(c) and (d) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain infiltration from across the borders. This, *inter-alia*, includes round the clock surveillance and patrolling on the borders and establishment of observation posts; construction of border fencing and flood lighting; introduction of modern and hi-tech surveillance equipment; upgradation of intelligence set up and coordination with the State Governments and intelligence agencies concerned. As a result of these measures, cross border infiltration has shown a declining trend. The details of apprehension of foreign infiltrators made by Border Security Force in Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh International Borders during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Indo-Pakistan Border	Indo-Bangladesh Border	Total
2006	128	5130	5258
2007	128	4206	4334
2008 (Till Nov.)	123	2559	2682

Toning up prison reforms scheme

1804. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether concerned over incidents of jail breaks, overcrowding of jails and poor facilities for inmates, Ministry has decided to tone up five year old prison reforms scheme;

(b) if so, whether it will strictly monitor scheme's implementation in States which are lagging behind either in utilizing the Central funds or in putting jail reforms on fast track;

(c) whether any concrete report from the States in this regard has been obtained;

(d) if so, the States who have failed to implement scheme; and

(e) the steps being taken to implement the scheme in these States so that prison reforms are implemented?